

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 065785
ORIGIN SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 MCE-00 PM-05
DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SS-15
SSO-00 TRSE-00 /052 R

DRAFTED BY SSM: J T MCANDREW:JJ
APPROVED BY SSM: J T MCANDREW
NEA/ESY - D. ZWEIFEL (DRAFT)
NEA/IAI - C. HILL (DRAFT)
NEA: N VELIOTES
-----111204 150121Z /62
O 150103Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION SINAI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065785

TEL AVIV FOR KONTOS AND HUNT; SINAI FOR WALLEN ONLY FROM SSM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, EG, US

SUBJECT: AIR SURVEILLANCE RADAR FOR E-1

REF: SINAI 557 (NOTAL)

1. GENERAL ELECTRIC HAS APPLIED FOR A MUNITIONS CONTROL
LICENSE TO RELEASE TO THE GOE TECHNICAL DATA ON THE ASR-77
GROUND RADAR SYSTEM FOR PHASE THREE OF THE E-1 PROJECT.
THE ASR-77 IS ESSENTIALLY A QUOTE SANITIZED VERSION UN-
QUOTE OF THE G.E. 592 FOR WHICH A MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSE
WAS EARLIER DENIED. BASED UPON THE FREQUENCY AND RADIATION
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ASR-77, SSM HAS DETERMINED THAT THIS
UNIT WOULD NOT POSE AN ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERFERENCE OR
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HEALTH PROBLEM FOR SFM AND NEA HAS BEEN SO INFORMED. SSM
DETERMINATION WILL BE CONSIDERED ALONG WITH OTHER FACTORS
BEFORE DECISION REACHED ON MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSE.

2. WE UNDERSTAND GAZIT IS LIKELY TO RAISE THE QUESTION
OF AIR SURVEILLANCE RADAR AT E-1 WITH YOU MARCH 15. IF
SO, YOU SHOULD DRAW ON FOLLOWING IN REPLY AS APPROPRIATE.

A. THE QUESTION OF FURNISHING AIR SURVEILLANCE RADAR AT E-1 HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN RAISED DIRECTLY WITH YOU (GAZIT) AND WITH DEFENSE MINISTER WEIZMAN. FURTHERMORE, AS GAZIT KNOWS, WE PREVIOUSLY INDICATED OUR READINESS TO ADDRESS ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS THAT ISRAEL BELIEVED IT WOULD ENCOUNTER FROM THE INSTALLATION OF AIR SURVEILLANCE RADAR AT E-1 AND HAD REQUESTED THE NECESSARY TECHNICAL INFORMATION TO DETERMINE THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF SUCH RADAR ON ISRAEL'S COLLECTION CAPABILITIES.

B. WE HAD ALSO SUGGESTED THAT SUCH TECHNICAL PROBLEMS COULD BE RAISED IN THE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN MILITARY TALKS IN CAIRO. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ISRAEL DID NOT RAISE THIS ISSUE.

C. ACCORDINGLY, THE USG AUTHORIZED PRIVATE AMERICAN FIRMS TO PRESENT PROPOSALS TO THE EGYPTIANS. THE GOE SUBSEQUENTLY SIGNED A CONTRACT WITH G.E. WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR LOCATION OF AN AIR SURVEILLANCE RADAR AT E-1. FYI THE CONTRACT DOES NOT NOW SPECIFY WHICH AIR SURVEILLANCE RADAR IS TO BE FURNISHED AND YOU SHOULD NOT DISCUSS WITH THE ISRAELIS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE ASR-77 RADAR COULD BE PROVIDED. VANCE

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